

In Texas, we know this from personal experience.

On the same day that Shelby County v. Holder was decided officials in Texas announced they would immediately implement its Photo ID law, and other election laws, policies, and practices that could never pass muster under the Section 5 preclearance regime.

This stands in contrast to President Lyndon Johnson, who understood that the right to vote is:

The most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men.

Because Barbara Jordan understood the importance of protecting the right to vote, she authored the 1975 amendment that became Section Sections 4(f)(3) and 4(f)(4) of the Voting Rights Act, which extended to language minorities the protections of Section 4(a) and Section 5, which also had the effect of subjecting Texas to the pre-clearance provisions of Section 5.

I am pleased that the inaugural recipient of the award given in Barbara Jordan's name also understands, as she made clear in her acceptance remarks in which she called for reforms to make it easier, not harder, for Americans to exercise the franchise, including automatic, universal registration of voters once they turn 18; and a national standard of not fewer than 20 days of early in-person voting in every state, including opportunities for week-end and evenings.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Texas Southern University, and the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs and Thurgood Marshall School of Law for honoring the memory of one of a great American by establishing the Barbara Jordan Gold Medallion and I congratulate the 2015 recipient of this prestigious award, the Honorable Hillary Clinton.

I look forward to congratulating future recipients of the Barbara Jordan Gold Medallion in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 375, due to unforeseen circumstances I was unable to vote on H.R. 160, the Protect Medical Innovation Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

HONORING THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Church of the Living God in Winchester, Kentucky. This church is celebrating their twenty-fifth anniversary in ministry on July 26th. Led by Pastors Thomas and Lela Hall and Mike and Angela Smith, this church

is an important part of the Clark County community. Their ministry touches the lives of their members, others in the community, and people all throughout the world by the service and mission work that they carry out. I congratulate the Church of the Living God on their twenty five years serving God and impacting the region through the Lord Jesus Christ and I wish them a long and productive future in ministry.

TRIBUTE TO SHENANDOAH FLORAL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shenandoah Floral of Shenandoah, Iowa. For over 90 years, Shenandoah Floral has been a staple in the Shenandoah community. According to local history, the florist shop was first recorded in the local phonebook in 1925. In 2006, Shenandoah Floral was purchased by current owner Nancy Maher. Nancy purchased the shop when it was in danger of closing and has turned the business into a success story.

Nancy had no prior experience running a floral shop, so the assistance of the existing staff helped in making Shenandoah Floral successful. Nancy contributes the success of the floral shop to her employees. Nancy wanted to keep the floral shop in operation in order to keep existing jobs in Shenandoah. She stated that, "If the doors had closed, they'd have just been out of a job." Nancy has been committed to preserving Shenandoah's downtown area and keeping the downtown business district viable.

Since assuming ownership of the floral shop, Nancy has seen many changes in the operation of the business, such as the streamlining of operations by using advanced technology and computers. She remembers handwriting orders. Nancy takes pride in the services that the floral shop provides. The shop receives orders from around the world, including from our men and women in the military who wish to send flowers to family members. The business cherishes the many friends and customers they have served for the past 90 years.

I commend Shenandoah Floral and their staff for their 90 years of dedicated service to Shenandoah and southwest Iowa. I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Shenandoah Floral for their many achievements in the florist industry. I wish them and all of their employees best wishes moving forward.

IN RECOGNITION OF JACK LUND'S RETIREMENT AFTER 40 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP IN THE YMCA

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jack Lund and his retirement after forty years of leadership and service in the YMCA.

Jack currently serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA of Greater New York, the largest YMCA in the United States. As head of New York City's largest private youth-serving organization, Jack is dedicated to strengthening the foundations of communities in New York City through programs that nurture the potential of children and youth, improve the health and well being of individuals and communities and address some of New York City's most challenging social problems.

Jack has pioneered programs in education, civic engagement and immigrant services. Most recently, the Y has launched signature programs addressing the academic achievement gap for children living in poverty, the epidemic of youth obesity and disconnected young people—who have dropped out of school and are not working.

Jack has spent 40 years working for various YMCAs, starting his service in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Prior to joining the YMCA of Greater New York, he served as president and CEO of the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee from 1995 through 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Jack Lund on this remarkable occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him a wonderful retirement and many years of happiness.

REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM IRAQ AND SYRIA

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 55, which requires the President to withdraw our troops deployed in Iraq and Syria before the end of the year unless Congress passes an Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) to combat ISIL.

I do want to stress that I support many aspects of the military operations the President is currently conducting against ISIL, including the use of American air power against ISIL targets and in support of Iraqi and Kurdish forces, as well as the deployment of limited numbers of American troops to help train and equip those forces. However, it has now been ten months since the President sent troops into Iraq and Syria and four months since the President sent Congress a proposed AUMF to combat ISIL. While I have serious concerns with that proposed draft, we owe it to our troops and the American people to at the very least have a debate in Congress on our military engagement in Iraq and Syria.

My primary concern is that the President continues to rely on the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force Against and Al-Qaeda and associated forces and the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force against Iraq as justification to take military action against ISIL. While he has repeatedly stated that he will not deploy ground troops in a combat role in either Syria or Iraq, these existing authorities leave that door open. We need to sunset both the 2001 AUMF and 2002 AUMF and pass a narrowly tailored AUMF to combat ISIL that provides the authority necessary to degrade

and defeat ISIL without dragging the United States into another unnecessary ground war in the Middle East.

TRIBUTE TO JANE HART

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and a pioneer from my home state of Michigan, Jane Hart. Jane passed away on June 5, 2015.

Some of us in Congress knew Jane through her husband, the late Senator Phil Hart, for whom the Hart Senate Office Building is named and who was known as the “conscience of the Senate.” I had the privilege of knowing her personally through common endeavors in Michigan. So while Jane Hart was her husband’s partner in so many ways during his service to the people of Michigan, she was a leader and a trailblazer in her own right. She was a person with an unusual combination of a sense of responsibility for the common good, family loyalty and respect for individuality.

Like so many women during World War II, Jane was committed to helping the American war effort. She was involved with the American Red Cross, helping to found their motor corps. She trained other women to drive the trucks built in Michigan factories to military bases around the country and to ports for transport overseas. Her involvement in this effort led to her interest in flying. During a time when there were very few women pilots, Jane earned licenses to fly single and multi-engine airplanes. She later became the first woman in the state of Michigan to earn a license to fly helicopters, and during her husband’s first campaign for the Senate, she flew Phil to campaign events throughout the state.

Her passion for flight led to an interest in the space program, and she, along with 12 others, were the first women to pass the physical and psychological tests required by NASA of astronaut candidates. NASA denied their entry into the astronaut program, and the Detroit News reported that she commented at the time, “The men just could not get it and the country lost a great opportunity.” While this group of women, who became known as the Mercury 13, never went to space themselves, their efforts and their advocacy helped to pave the way for Sally Ride to become the first American woman astronaut, and for all the women who have contributed so much to our space program since Ms. Ride’s historic flight.

As a pioneer for women in flight and in space, it was no surprise that Jane Hart was a powerful advocate for women’s rights in general. In 1966, Jane was a founding board member of the National Organization for Women (NOW), where she chaired the new organization’s Task Force on Legal and Political Rights, and she helped to establish NOW chapters in Michigan and in Washington, DC. For many years, she passionately advocated for an Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In recognition of her leadership, Jane was inducted into the Michigan Women’s Hall of Fame in 2007.

Jane was also a well-known peace activist during the tumultuous period of the Vietnam

War, which her son Michael told the Washington Post sometimes made things “a little bit . . . complicated” for her husband. But, as her son also noted to the Post, “On occasion someone would demand of him, ‘Can’t you control that wife of yours?’ But the senator would respond, ‘Why would I?’”

While leading a life of adventure and advocacy, Jane Hart also raised her family with love and commitment. She and Phil Hart had nine children, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. To them, and to all who knew her, Jane Hart was a vital force whose intelligence, energy and passion were inspirational. I encourage my colleagues to join me in remembering Jane Hart’s remarkable contributions to our country and in extending condolences to the Hart family on her passing.

IN HONOR OF THE REVEREND ROOSEVELT FRANKLIN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding spiritual leader and man of God, the Reverend Roosevelt Franklin. Sadly, Reverend Franklin passed away on Monday, June 15, 2015. His passing leaves a tremendous void in the hearts of his family, friends, and followers in Georgia and across the world. A funeral service was held in his honor on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia.

Reverend Roosevelt Delano Franklin Johnson was born on August 30, 1933 in Chattanooga, Tennessee to James and Cora Ponds Johnson. He attended Oxford School of Divinity in England. Reverend Franklin began his ministry in 1966, and for the past forty-nine years, he has been a willing vessel for the Lord.

Known around the world as the “Original Georgia Prophet,” Rev. Franklin traveled the globe teaching people of all walks of life. He served as pastor of Free For All Baptist Church in Greenwood, South Carolina from 1951 until 1952, when he became a spiritual radio minister. He ministered at Spiritual Church in Aiken, South Carolina from 1962–1963. His journey then took him to Macon, Georgia, where he became President of United Council of Spiritual Ministers and Talent Coordinator and Promoter of numerous renowned spiritual singers.

Always seeking to improve the craft of Christian ministry and discipleship, Rev. Franklin created the television program, “The Prosperity Way of Living” and the radio program, “Echo of Prophecy,” in the early 1960s. In 1966, Rev. Franklin founded the Holy Trinity House of God, which he pastored until his departure to his eternal reward.

Rev. Franklin proudly served the craft of Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge. He was National Grand Orator for the National Grand Council of Nine. Rev. Franklin received numerous awards and recognitions for his accomplishments.

A charismatic leader with an infectious spiritual zeal, Reverend Franklin had a way of ensuring that his listeners found their way to

prosperity and happiness as they lived their lives in Christ. But beyond his radio ministry, Rev. Franklin made himself available to those who sought a relationship with Christ, and he would hold personal consultations with anyone who needed guidance and encouragement. He taught people to be positive, to search for knowledge, and overall, to be guided by the voice of God. Rev. Franklin was truly a man of integrity who exuded the genuine principles and values of Christian discipleship.

On a personal note, I have truly been blessed by Rev. Franklin’s sage counsel and enduring friendship over the many years I have known him.

Dr. George Washington Carver once said, “No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it.” We are so blessed that the Reverend Roosevelt Franklin passed this way and shared with us his legacy of service that will stand the test of time. Surely, the wealth of wisdom that Reverend Franklin has given to his listeners will forever resonate in their hearts and spirits.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people in the Second Congressional District of Georgia, would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Rev. Franklin’s family, friends, and followers during this difficult time. May we all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BOROUGH OF BANGOR’S 140TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 140th anniversary of the Borough of Bangor, located in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, and its listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The area now known as Bangor, PA was settled in 1735. It was first named Uttsville after Adam Utt, one of the area’s first hotel builders. In 1855, the name was changed to New Village. Slate was discovered in 1856. Robert M. Jones, from Bethesda, Wales, founded the slate industry, and the first quarry opened in 1863. Bangor was incorporated as a borough on May 5, 1875. At that time, the population was 1,500. It was and is the core community in what came to be known as the Slate Belt region of Northampton County. At its height, Bangor’s slate was known as the finest in the world, and Bangor was home to over seven major hotels.

In the mid-1990s, a group of Bangor residents sought to preserve the borough’s historical assets to secure its future vitality. In 2007, Bangor’s Borough Business Revitalization Program joined a regional Main Street Program to foster the image of Bangor’s traditional assets. The program later evolved into the Slate Belt Community Partnership, which continued the work. The National Register of Historic Places listing was approved in late 2014. Its focus is the slate extraction industry and the ethnic groups it attracted to Bangor from 1866–1940.

I offer congratulations to the residents of Bangor for fulfilling their vision of a preserved